

Juan Carlos Munoz Polvo

Gateway Community Collage

Mechanical engineering

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Members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Juan Carlos Munoz Polvo, I am currently on my third semester at gateway Community college, pursuing a degree in Mechanical engineering I am humbled by the opportunity I have been given to be in front of you today to share my personal experience at gateway in an effort to bring awareness of the importance of funding in higher education, Gateway has been instrumental in helping me achieve my dreams and career goals by offering an affordable education. Everyone always looks down on community college, but gateway has changed my perspective on everything. Since enrolling at gateway Community college, I have obtained an immense number of amazing opportunities, from having free tutoring, being able to rent a calculator or laptop from their library to meeting the amazing people in the fesp program like kentha heng a fesp coach who has helped me out so much with budgeting, food resources like the food pantry and even connecting me with Alfred Guante who was able to help me get into work study and who now I consider a mentor.

The importance of education has been told to me from a young age. Both of my parents did not attend collage although they always encouraged me to one day go to college it wasn't until recently at my 26 years of age that I attended college due too financial aid problems and being a single father I was determined to not let that stop anymore and gateway has been with me all the way.